



LRW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Li-Ching LO et al. Confirmation No: 8594
Appl. No. : 10/677,218
Filed : October 3, 2003
Title : A COMPOUND HAVING ANTI-VIRAL ACTIVITY

TC/A.U. : 1625
Examiner : Z. N. Davis

Docket No.: LOLI3002/REF
Customer No: 23364

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Official Action of March 31, 2005, in connection with the above identified application.

The Official Action is a restriction requirement in which it is urged that there are two separate and distinct inventions claimed in this application. Applicants elect the Group II invention directed to a method of antagonizing viruses in vitro using a compound of formula I which includes claims 11-20. The election is made without traverse. Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application on the non-elected invention at a later time.

In addition, Applicants are further required to elect a single disclosed species for initial search purposes. Applicants election for X is pyridium, for Y is $-(CH_2)_3$, and for Z is PF_5 (hexafluorophosphate). Claims 11-14 and 16-19 are readable thereon. Applicants understand that currently claims 1-20 are generic. Upon allowance of a generic claim, additional species may be considered.

Appl. No. 10/677,218
Amendment dated: April 29, 2005
Reply to OA of: March 31, 2005

In view of the election of the Group II invention and the single disclosed species, without traverse, an early and favorable action on the merits is now believed to be in order and is most respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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April 29, 2005